Weather Evaluation Team (WET)  
“Operational Bridging”  

Tom Lloyd, JetBlue Airways  
Presented to FPAW  
14 July 2011
Operational Bridging (OB)

What is OB?
- Forecasting processes
- Meteorology/TFM decision maker engagement protocols
- Communication tools

Accelerate the transition of forecasts to decisions
Evolve the CCFP concept
Demonstrate NextGen weather concepts
- Single Authoritative Source
- Automation driven forecasts with human-over-the-loop
Operational Bridging, Convective Weather Forecasts and ATM Decision Making

TFM
Probabilistic
(Might or might not Low to medium confidence)

ATMITL (provider and user)

ATC
Near Deterministic
(Will or will not High confidence)

ITWS

CCFP

CoSPA

LCH

Operational Bridging

MITL

Strategic Decision Making

Tactical Decision Making

8+ hours

~4 hours

~2 hours

~20 minutes

Image: Mitre
Operational Bridging

- **Operational Bridging Meteorologist(s)**
  - Facilitated with remote participation: FOCs, CWSUs, others
  - Understands NAS elements and processes
  - Tunes forecast to critical times/areas of impact

- **Initiates the process within 4 hours of weather impact**
  - Aviation Weather Statement (AWS)
  - Continuous collaboration as situation evolves
AVIATION WEATHER STATEMENT
NWS AVIATION WEATHER CENTER KANSAS CITY
1459Z WED AUG XX, 2011

ARTCCS AFFECTED...ZKC/ZME/ZID

IMPACT...SRN RE-ROUTES AROUND THIS AREA
WILL BE IMPACTED BY CONVECTION OVER
MS/AL/LA.

DISCUSSION... DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN CCFP
AND COSPA. COSPA INDC CURRENT
CONVECTION OVER KS/SRN MO TO DIMINISH
OVR NEXT SEVERAL HOURS. NEW MODEL
GUIDANCE SUGGESTS INSTABILITY WILL REMAIN
STRONG ALONG COLD FRONT. CONCERNED
THAT THE COSPA IS NOT PICKING UP ON THIS.
MET CONSENSUS IS THAT CONVECTION WILL
CONTINUE THROUGH 21Z AND EVEN INCREASE
IN COVG AND INTENSITY. TOPS OF 450 AND
STORM MOTION ENE 20-25 KNOTS.
Ongoing Activities

- Table-top demonstration in May provided positive feedback to move forward
- Operational demonstration: August 2011
- Next steps
  - Transition to operational
  - CCFP changes: “shift right,” move toward automation driven